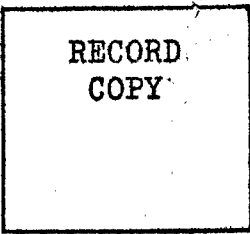


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RESOLUTION AND SPEECHES AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS
OF VIETNAM LAO DONG YOUTH GROUP IN FEBRUARY, 1960

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RESOLUTION AND SPEECHES AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS
OF VIETNAM LAO DONG YOUTH GROUP IN FEBRUARY, 1960

[Following is a translation of selected articles from various issues of the Vietnamese-language newspaper Tien-Phong (Vanguard), Hanoi. Date of issue, page and author, if any, are given under individual article headings]

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I. RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED AT THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF VIETNAM
LAO DONG YOUTH GROUP DELEGATES
15-20 FEBRUARY 1960

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29 February 1960
Pages 2-3

In 1959, the international situation "underwent a definite change for the better and to our advantage."

1. The progress in every aspect of the Socialist countries, especially the outstanding achievements of the Soviet Union in the fields of science and technology, and the great leap forward of China, has caused a great change in the international forces in the world. "The forces of peace are stronger than the forces of the warmongering nations."

In North Vietnam, under the guidance of the resolutions passed by the 11th, 15th and 16th meetings of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, the task of building and improving Socialism scored a great success. The promotion of Socialism with regard to agriculture, handicraft, industry, trade, private enterprises, and small business is progressing and being forged ahead. The great works of the Government in 1959 were done with great success; the rate of progress in agriculture, industry, in the fundamental base for small industry and handicraft.... were also on the increase.

In the general rate of progress of the people of the North, under the leadership of the Communist Party, the youth movement underwent a great change that resulted in a great number of achievements. Implementing various resolutions passed at the 6th and 7th meetings of the Central Committee of the Youth Group under the slogan, "Resolutely step to the fore and compete for service in the task of building Socialism and unifying the country's tens of thousands of youth group members and millions of other young people have courageously participated in the great task of production among the workers and find themselves always in the front ranks of various tasks of Socialist construction.

In the rural areas, young people are actively working in collectives, and contribute in a positive way to the promotion and expansion of collectivization of agriculture. In the field of production, young people are also ahead in various projects involving technological changes: for instance, in the fight against drought flood, and in the preparation of manure, they have overcome many difficulties, engaging courageously in the task of saving and storing food for the whole year. Special mention should be made about the mountainous regions last year when the youth movement distinguished itself in many ways, such as the participation of the youth in the collectivization of agriculture, in the improvement of technological know-how, in the strengthening and furthering of the organization of the Youth Groups. In areas where Catholic compatriots were concentrated, the youth movement made real progress.

Young workers have developed their concrete role in the struggle for bettering the bourgeois classes and for improving the managerial system of the industrial plants. Through participating in the improvement of the managerial system of the plants with Socialism as the ultimate goal, and by making the workers aware of their managerial role, the young workers proved that they are the most positive elements in the drive for initiative, for improving the technological know-how, and for better production. Young people have courageously manifested the spirit of bold thought, bold speech and bold action. The drive for professional learning was given a big push. In basic public works, in teams working on geological projects, our youth have, in the past as of now, overcome many obstacles. They work without selfish motives and engage in the exploitation of natural resources of the country in order to make the country rich and prosperous.

In the armed forces, our youth have also made valuable contributions to the building of a strong army, which is progressively assuming the character of a standardized and modern army. The military youth have shown a shining example in the field of military and cultural education, by strengthening themselves physically, by training in technological know-how, by being self-effacing in work, always ready to sacrifice and fight in order to bring well-being to the people. They are ready to go anywhere the country needs them, even to the farthest border and the remotest islands. They prove to be the most valuable symbol of the determination and courage of the people in general, and of the whole youth in particular. The drive for education of the youth has been popular among the young people. Many group members and other young people have participated in military activities through their enlisting in the regular army and joining the self-defence militia. They make great efforts to educate themselves and get to be more and more aware of their responsibilities and glorious destiny in their mission of protecting the country and preserving peace.

The movement of schoolboys and students has also made a great deal of progress. Groups of schoolboys, schoolgirls, students and teachers march to the fore in the task of building the school of Socialism, furthering the political and ideological education of the young people, and implementing the slogan of 'Linking study with Production by the labor class', thus making the movement to bring about basic changes. Through political education, and engaging in manual labor, schoolboys and students have progressively come to be aware of the labor viewpoint, to know about the right methods of education, while the teachers on their part have also become more aware of their responsibility in their profession. Many young teachers thus have volunteered to go to the mountainous regions, bringing with them the light of new ideals of education to the mountain people.

Young people in various stations, on the basis of individual tasks, make great efforts to raise the level of education and responsibility as well as the sense of awareness of the mission performed.

Young girls, on the basis of individual tasks, also made great contributions toward building Socialism in North Vietnam and in the struggle for the unification of the country.

Young people from bourgeois families, through reforms of private enterprises, have also made progress in their thought reform. A rather large number of these people have supported and approved the policies of the Party and the Government, and cause their families to engage in the task of reforms.

Young people of South Vietnam being assembled to work in the North have also made valuable contributions in the task of building the North.

The children movement last year made great progress. The 'Vanguard Children Group' was taught patriotism, the tradition of revolution, Socialism, the viewpoints of labor, and awareness about the Party. The patterns of education abound, for instance, the 'Small Projects Movement', 'Tiny Collectives', and such other activities as 'Visit to the South,' '18th Anniversary of the formation of the Youth Team,' '15th Anniversary of the creation of the Armed Forces,' and '30th Anniversary of the formation of the Party,' etc. Such projects have contributed to the political level of awareness for the Party, give a push to the yearning for education and arouse the organizational spirit of the Team. Thus, the team is able to improve a great deal.

Last year, the Central Group recognized the need of organizing and educating children from 6 to 9 years old and set up the Team of August Children with good results.

In every field of endeavor, whether political, economic, productive, cultural, social, etc, young people made great efforts, thus proving that they are worth the confidence that the country has in them, the confidence of the Party, the Government and the people, and justifying the training and educational efforts of the Party and Chairman Ho.

The youth movement last year thus progressed at a rapid pace. With a strong belief in Socialism and based on the spirit of patriotism, the youth movement was accelerated in an evident way. Progress could be seen in the determination of young workers to be managers, the self-awakened attitude of labor, the enthusiasm of the workers, and the growing awareness towards the Party. The dynamic participation of the people in general and of the young people in particular last year, as seen in the protest against the massacre at Phu-loi, directed at the American-Diem clique who implemented Law No. 10-59 which authorizes the massacre of the former fighters and patriots, etc... resulted in the growing determination for revenge and the uncompromising will to struggle for the unification of the country.

Through discipline and struggle, the Group's of young workers are getting more mature in thinking, in organization and in youth leadership. They prove to be the effective arm and the reserve strength of the Party, on a par with the glorious tradition and shining record of the Party.

The progress of the youth movement last year was done mostly by the efforts of the large number of youth members and young people, and through the endeavor of every level of the Youth Group Committee, but the main reason for its success is the willingness of every level of the Party to take up leadership, especially the Central Committee headed by Chairman Ho-chi-Minh.

The more they are encouraged and are proud of the great achievements in the task of building Socialism in the North, the more the young people of North Vietnam become resentful of the American-Diem clique who mistreats, represses and exploits the compatriots in the South. They are resentful of the miseries and vicissitudes that the South Vietnamese people have to endure. These people, under the rotten political and social regime of the America-Diem clique, have to face unemployment, hunger and illiteracy, have to see their most cherished aspirations unfulfilled, and sometimes, have to perform tasks loathful to their conscience. Young people as well as the people in general in the South show an unyielding spirit in face of persecutions, and courageously protest against a rotten political and social regime backed by guns and bayonets. Young people of the North are concerned about the dear South and admire the bold spirit of the young people and all the compatriots in the South in their determination to free their half of the country and bring about the unification of the nation.

Summarizing, we say that the youth movement is progressing at a rapid pace. The activities of our Youth Groups have made great strides. But even so, there are still many shortcomings and a number of problems still need to be solved.

Although a great change has been noticed in the minds of young Group members and other young people with regard to the awakening to Socialism, the level of awareness concerning Socialism is still low when faced with the greater needs of the revolution of Socialism. There are still a great number of group members and other young people who have not grasped fully the purpose of the struggle for Socialism. The ideals of human life, and the enthusiasm for carrying out the revolution are not strongly grasped.

To promote the revolution for Socialism means to promote increasingly labor productivity, pointing to the need of teaching technological know-how to the youth, but as the cultural and technological levels of the group members and other young people are still low, that fact constitutes a big obstacle to the increase of labor productivity and an expanded production.

Although the organization of the Youth Group has been strengthened and expanded, it is not sufficient enough to respond to the greater needs of a new revolution which demand greater efforts in the development of a greater strength for the Group.

The ways of performing the tasks at all levels from the Central Committee of the Youth Group down, were not satisfactory as desired, did not penetrate deeply and affect the drives for productivity and learning, and failed to affect the leadership in accordance with the changing conditions and the change in the means of production.

The low level of the cadres in the Group in the areas of argumentation, education, understanding and technological know-how is an obstacle to an enlightened leadership for the youth movement today.

Some Tasks Performed by the Groups in 1960

The year 1960 is the last year of the three year plan, a year for laying the foundation for the renovation of Socialism and a year of preparation for starting the first five-year plan.

1960 is also the year full of momentous events, for instance, the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Communist Party, the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the 70th birthday of Chairman Ho Chi Minh, the 3rd Convention of the Party, the year of implementation of the new Constitution and of the newly-elected Congress.

All these historic events have a great influence on every aspect of life of the Youth Group members and other young people in general, and while they bring forth new tasks and responsibilities, they also communicate to our youth a new enthusiasm and new vitality spurring them to further these great tasks.

Our youth need to know the exact stage of the revolution and the nature of their responsibilities in that great historic task of strengthening the will for carrying out the revolution for Socialism.

Youth members and the young people in general must struggle with the conviction and full knowledge of the responsibilities of the custodians of their country, with all the enthusiasm and fervor of the young age for the revolution, with great efforts in learning, working, producing, struggling in every field in order to bring about the revolution for Socialism, to lay the foundation for the renovation of Socialism, and endeavor to bring it about before the deadline of the plan of the Government in 1960, participating fully in the struggle for the unification of the country.

The resolution at the 6th meeting of the Executive Committee of the Youth Group entitled 'Actively stepping to the fore to compete for contributions to the great task of building Socialism and unifying the country,' has in the past and at the present influenced strongly the ideas and works of our youth, spurred them into more progress and brought glory to the present generation.

Confronted with the glorious task of participating in the project of improving Socialism and building Socialism, young people -- both young men and young women alike, and the young people in general -- have made great efforts to study, work, greatly enhance their enthusiasm, surge always to the fore in every working project, have the will to succeed, and know that they have to struggle while they are still young.

In the new stage of the revolution, and with the progress made by the Government, the Youth Groups are performing their new tasks in a much larger framework than before in various political, intellectual, economic, scientific and human fields. Members of the Youth Groups and other young people ought to know that their task at present and in the future must be that of building Socialism, and of engaging in the work of rebuilding the country. Knowing this, they must bear in mind that they have to be educated, study culture and the doctrines of Marx and Lenin, science and technology, in other words, to study for the purpose of rebuilding the country. Education must be the main concern of the young people. Education must be a going concern of a revolutionary character for our youth. Education does not mean that the youth would abstain from the field of production among the ranks of labor, but it means that young people must engage in furthering productivity and in specialized projects. When they engage in the work of furthering productivity and doing specialized projects, they have to study, in order to improve their political, intellectual, cultural, technological and professional levels. It is only by knowing and realizing fully the essential meaning of education that the youth members and the young people in general come to have enthusiasm, to study with assiduity, and to overcome every obstacle for the purpose of education. The following precepts must be fully understood.

Young people must base their activities on the dynamics of the revolution spirit, a fervent patriotism and love for Socialism which act as a lever. They must act with the revolutionary mind which characterizes youth, with initiative, bold thought and bold actions. They must fight against the habits of the old society, the static ideas of negligence, laziness, self-satisfaction, excessive caution, or a sense of complacency without any yearning for improvement and without insatiable curiosity.

Young people ought to know how to fit in the task of renovating Socialism and building Socialism through strengthening education for the young, organizing the young, and inculcating the vanguard spirit upon them.

When working on an existing task, young people must concern themselves at the same time with long-range projects, attempt to achieve the three-year plan of the Government before the deadline, while making preparations for carrying out the five-year plan of the Government. While they mobilize their forces for competitive drives in productivity, they also must pay attention to the intellectual, political, cultural, scientific and technological education of the young people and care for their health.

Attention must be paid to the teams of youngsters. It is necessary to prepare them for admission to the Youth Groups, and to prepare the groups of new people to adopt new ideas, to be in good health, and to have the right kind of cultural and scientific knowledge in order to be able to build Socialism and set up the Communist regime later.

Based on the general tasks of 1960, and guided by the slogans and guiding principles mentioned before, the concrete tasks of the Youth Groups would be as follows:

1. To develop strongly the role of vanguard of the Groups on the front of renovating Socialism, to struggle in order to lay the foundation for the collectivization of agriculture, handicraft and the reforming of private trade and private enterprises, and to pave the way for increased productivity.

2. To mobilize the masses of young people for competitive drives with the aim of achieving the project of the Government in 1960 in the fields of agriculture, industry, and handicraft production, and cultural promotion, with the intent to carry out the project before the deadline and to exceed the production quotas.

3. To teach the ideals of Socialism and the ethics of Communism to the young people, to increase the level of awareness for Socialism in order to make it the main concern of the people and to link it with the infusion of patriotism in the minds of people, the awareness of the need for the defense and unification of the country.

4. To endeavor to learn culture, to step into the fields of science, technology, to exercise one's body and to promote the education for the people.

5. To promote strongly the leadership for organization, to boost the strength of the Group quantitatively, to make sure that the policies of the Party with regard to the classes would be strictly implemented, to uphold the spirit of struggle so that the organization of the Group goes apace with the mission of the revolution, and to use to the utmost the strength of the Group in order to carry out the present revolution.

6. To strengthen leadership in various projects for the youngsters, to take the work of training and improving the cadres in charge of children as examples, to develop the teams of 'Vanguard Youngsters', and to set up and expand the 'Team of August Children.'

7. To act boldly and to speed up the formation and choice of cadres, to pay attention to female cadres, and to strengthen the leadership at all levels of the league.

1. To develop strongly the role of vanguard of the Groups on the front of renovating Socialism, to struggle in order to lay the foundation for the collectivization of agriculture, handicraft, and the reforming of private trade and private enterprises, and to pave the way for increased productivity.

The year 1960 is the year for expanding and achieving the work of laying the foundation for the renovation of Socialism with regard to agriculture, handicraft and private trade and enterprises. The task of the Youth Group this year must be to develop its role of vanguard youth, to struggle in order to carry out the work of renovation and on the basis of the progressive change in the means of production. There is the increasing need for intellectual leadership and leadership in production in order to boost production and increase labor productivity.

With regard to the plan of collectivization of agriculture, the main problem is to increase the awareness of Socialism, and to make the young collective members to 'consider the activities in the collectives as if they are in their own homes' and to 'set up collectives with considerations of economy' to achieve better management.

It is necessary to make the cadres, group members and other young people understand that the road to collectivization is not solely a means to increase productivity, and to add to the number, but rather, it is a struggle of the classes to eliminate permanently the exploitation of the people, to free the land workers from their chains and from every hindrance that the feudal and capitalistic system of production imposed on them, and to pave the way for rural areas to pass into the era of collectivization. That is the substance of the revolution, the purpose of the classes in the collectivization system that we have to teach to the group members and the young people this year, especially those who have not participated yet in the collectives. The group members and the young people must fully participate in the managerial tasks and improve technology in order to bring good results to the collectives and to increase the number of the collectives' members. It is necessary to widen the 'competitive drive to become good collective members.' It is also necessary to uphold the sense of awareness for Socialism and to be concerned more and more for the activities of the collectives. Young collective members ought to be organized and trained to become teams having stronger will, greater interest in the activities of the collectives and more versatility in applying and improving technological methods. Leadership of the team ought to be more pronounced in the direction of collectivization in order to carry out the drive for collectivization of the rural areas. Attention must be paid to the strengthening of work projects to become future centers of collective activities.

Concerning the collectivization of handicraft and small industries, it is necessary to further education in a quantitative way, in order to make group members and young people understand fully the meaning of the principles and policies of collectivization, to induce

them to use that kind of knowledge to the best of their advantage in the way of performing collective work, to reinforce in them the attitude toward Socialism, to promote the initiative for improving technology, to further the increase in productivity, aiming at lowering prices in the cities and at increases in the number of collective members. The role of the Youth Groups in the drive for collectivization of handicraft and small industries being so important, it is necessary to develop to the utmost the organization structure of the Youth Groups in that kind of competitive drive. The various levels of the Youth Groups must pay attention to the mobilization of young people in this drive for collectivization of handicraft and small industries.

Concerning the drive for the reform of private trade and private enterprises, the main thing in the education process is to make the Youth Groups understand fully the exploitative character of capitalism, and the rotten character of the bourgeois class. It is only on that condition that the attitude of the labor class would be improved and that the will for revolution would be strengthened. Young people must participate directly in the struggle as a matter of practice in order to subdue their weak points while they have little experience in class struggle and in the revolution for Socialism and to train them for strength at the same time.

In the areas where the collective enterprises get underway, the leadership of the Youth Groups must be further strengthened. It is necessary to reinforce the sense of awareness for Socialism, the urge to become managers, the will to educate young people and to promote their initiative in order to boost their competitive spirit for productivity and their participation in collective enterprises.

2. To mobilize the masses of young people for the competitive drives with the aim of achieving the project of the Government in 1960 in the fields of agriculture, industry, and handicraft production, and cultural promotion, with the intent to carry out the project before the deadline and to exceed the production quotas.

The success of the plan of the Government in 1960 has wide implications, because it winds up the tasks of the remaining period of the 3-year plan, creates the proper machinery to set in motion the next five-year plan, and at the same time, it has a great political and economic influence on the material and cultural life of our people and young people.

The plan of the Government in 1960 must be brought to completion before the set schedule and the production quotas must be surpassed.

Our Group must be certain that the intention of the Party and the Government must be carried out. The determining factor is to know how to centralize physical and mental potentialities, to be imbued with the revolutionary spirit from the very beginning, to transform the competitive drives into a larger movement among the people, to create a new atmosphere for young people so that they may develop to the full extent their revolutionary spirit in the areas of production, to encourage bold thought and bold action, to promote more initiative and improved technology, and to combat hesitant and conservative attitudes as well as outmoded habits and customs.

Continued efforts in the drive for increased productivity must be considered the task of every people and the standard for competitive drives of the young people in general. The means to increase productivity rests on the mobilization of ideas and the full understanding of the implications of the plan of the Government in 1960, on the cadres working actively and deeply among the ranks of leadership in production, on youth members and young people in general through developing to the fullest extent their initiative, improving the ways of technology, participating in the drive for competitive production and at the same time, having full consideration for economy, for savings in time and material, as well as eliminating waste and corruption. The slogan for production, 'fast, plenty, good, cheap', must be carried out. Such is the new attitude of labor, which is the real attitude to work for Socialism.

Concerning production in agriculture, it is necessary to know fully well the general guiding principles. In addition to the growing of rice and other grains, the Group must pay attention to cattle raising and growing trees, and at the same time, to the drive for planting trees for the purpose of afforestation.

The Group must pay attention to the main tasks, namely participation in the projects of irrigation, in the drive for making manure (attention should be paid to the quantity as well as the contents of the manure), in study and learning from the experience of the new tasks, participation in improved technology, in the improvement of agrarian implements, and in the upholding of the spirit of bold thought and bold action of Phan-Trung-Bon in the education of the masses of young people. It is necessary to know fully the purposes of the irrigation projects, of manure preparation, of improving agrarian tools, and to recognize the need to boost that kind of drives. Leadership in agricultural production this year must make itself felt in the collectives. It is necessary to profit by the experience of the leadership of the Group in the collectives so as to be able to adapt to the demands of new means of production.

Concerning the production in handicraft and industry, and in basic reconstruction projects, the essential factor is to increase productivity, create savings, and lower the prices in cities. It is necessary to increase class consciousness to a higher level, the will to become managers, the spirit of bold thought and bold action, and the creative mind to improve technology and rationalize the motives. More attention should be paid to the intellectual process of education, to the need of learning professions, to the formation and training of young people in order that they will become professional and technological workers, and at the same time, to the opening of night classes and long-term schools for the young people. The Youth Group must be active in the task of improving the intellectual level of the young people in order to produce a great number of technological workers in face of the present needs.

Every activity must be geared to the spirit of the competitive drive in the 'struggle to become vanguard production agents, to set up vanguard centers and vanguard units,' and it is necessary to convene a Youth Convention among groups of young people working exclusively for building Socialism in order to recruit members and launch the movement.

The Youth Group this year must pay more attention to the mobilization for the drive and intellectual education of young people participating concretely in the work of basic reconstruction, industrial plants, communication systems and projects of collective dwellings. Our Youth Group must engage actively in a number of construction projects such as the building of the railroad line of Dong-Anh-Thai-Nguyen, the steel foundry of Thai-Nguyen, etc., in widening the base of the movement aiming at a larger group of young people, in depositing savings, in the building of a savings funds for Socialism, and the continued drive to set up the funds for the building of the plant of young people.

3 . To teach the ideals of Socialism and the ethics of Communism to the young people, to increase the level of awareness for Socialism in order to make it the main concern of the people and to link it with the infusion of the spirit of patriotism in the minds of the people, the awareness of the need for the defense and unification of the country.

The work of renovating Socialism and building Socialism requires further knowledge of Socialism and increasing consciousness about Socialism which ought to have the priority on the intellectual front in the struggle of 'Who wins Whom.' That consciousness must be made concrete within the framework of the spirit of struggle with regard to the reforming spirit, and within the spirit of working for building Socialism with regard to the constructive aspect. The drive for renovating Socialism, and the competitive movement to build Socialism ought to be considered as the school for training young members and young people in the way of intelligence and class consciousness.

In addition to the efforts to increase awareness for Socialism, the Youth Group this year must increase quantitatively the contents of education contributing to the Socialist viewpoint to the group members and young people. The main factor is to encourage the will of young people to become managers in the performance of every work, to make them understand that manual work is the most glorious of all kinds of work, to view the task of building Socialism as the most sacred task given in trust by the Party, and to be ready to offer one's own efforts, capabilities and intellect to the service of the Party and the people in general wherever they need in the task of building a rich and prosperous Fatherland.

The Group must teach its members and other young people the ethics of Communism, the way of 'living, studying, and working in the Socialist fashion,' using the ethics and behavior of Chairman Ho Chi Minh as a yardstick, fighting against easy life, the tendency to be afraid of difficulties and obstacles, wastefulness, the bad influences of capitalist way of life, and the remnants of feudal imperialism, sweeping away the remnants of slave and rotten literature, the kind of "yellow" books which still remain in great numbers on the shelves of certain bookstores and in the collections of a certain number of young people, and building a new mode of living based on the principles and rules of the collective way of living.

The Group must strengthen the will of youth members and young people to struggle for the unification of the country and must teach them that the spirit of patriotism and Socialism are one and the same, reinforce their awareness for the needs of national defense in order to make them understand that the responsibility of building the North is inseparable from the mission of struggling for the unification of the whole country so as to make them grasp the full meaning of the revolution. The Group must reinforce the spirit of revenge against the America-Diem clique, the will to support the young people and compatriots of the South, and promote extensively the movement for North-South friendship.

The education for strengthening the will for national defense requires the mobilization of every class of young people to induce them to perform military services and to contribute to the formation of reserve troops. Young people serving in the army should make effort to learn and to train themselves in the way of the intellect, in technology, culture, and physical education in order to become strong with the aim of creating a regular army.

This year, we have both favorable circumstances and conditions to impart the tradition of the revolution to our young people. That is on the occasion of the 15th anniversary of the formation of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the 70th birthday of Chairman Ho-Chi-Minh, as well as the teachings of the revolutionary tradition of the Youth Group, of the contents of the new Constitution and of the Marriage and Family Code.

It is necessary to link the patterns of education and the active and creative conveyance of these patterns and methods to the task of education. It is necessary to develop more extensively the system of schools of the Youth Group, especially at the provincial level, and to conceive the program dealing with the preliminary steps in order to implement the plan of forming cadres and improving the level of group members.

It is necessary to contribute to an increase in the role of the newspaper 'Tien Phong' (Vanguard) and of the books for young people published by the publishing houses for young people, in the task of educating group members and young people. It is necessary to popularize newspapers and books of the Youth Group, to make it a duty to read newspapers and books and a discipline of the Group. All levels of the Group ought to know the way to make use of the newspaper 'Tien-Phong' in the field of educational propaganda in order to guide group members and other young people in the performance of their works, and to speed up the distribution of newspapers.

4. To endeavor to learn culture, to step into the fields of science, technology, to exercise one's body and to promote the education for the people.

In order to build Socialism, to transform our country from one with an agricultural economy into a Socialist country with a modernized industry and agriculture, and an advanced technology, the will and devotion for the revolution are not enough. But it is necessary to have the right cultural level in order to make use of the new science and technology, and to take advantage of the new technological advances in their application in the field of productivity so as to make labor productivity progress without interruption. Thus, the duty of young people at present should be to learn culture, to step right into science and technology, to consider the study of culture, science and technology as a sacred duty, and as the positive evidence of the awareness for the revolution of Socialism. It is only through recognizing the needs for a cultural education and its urgency can the young people make any progress toward the technological revolution and the building of Socialism with a stepped up pace.

In order to popularize the movement for active participation in cultural education, the cadres and youth members must be an example to the people. In 1960, all the Group members must be able to reach the level of 3rd class, the cadres of larger groups, the level of 4th class, the cadres of district groups, that of 5th class, and the cadres of the provinces and upward, that of 6th class. In the mountainous regions, the problem of eliminating illiteracy is of prime importance. Liberal ways must be found to help young parents who have children and who want to go to school regularly for their education.

In order to prepare for the first five-year plan, it is necessary that attention should be paid to the guidance of young people to go to the professional classes according to a program geared to their needs and having a self-supporting character, to the classes of technology in the evenings, to the selection of good students for their preparation and admission to technological schools, to set up technological groups in the districts or in the collectives, and to convene conferences about technological agriculture. It is necessary to experiment the organization of agriculture at the primary and middle levels in the districts according to the work-and-study method, and to link the technological education with cultural and complementary political education.

Concerning students of universities, boys and girls of vocational and popular schools, the League of Young Workers must pay attention to the role of leadership in the process of intellectual influence, in the ways of teaching and conveying the meaning of an 'education linked to labor productivity,' an education for political service, for the quantitative improvement of character-forming as a whole with the purpose of organizing cadres and future workers in the task of building Socialism. It is necessary to mobilize group members and school boys and girls to participate in the development and renovating in a quantitative way of the school of Socialism. It is necessary particularly to strengthen the work of the larger groups in every aspect in order to further the tasks of education.

In order to promote continuously good health and vigor of the young people to make them ready to fight for the defense of the country, it is necessary to further physical education, to promote healthy exercises, and develop the field of gymnastics for defense. The Group must inculcate to young people the will to practice daily physical exercises. In the mountainous regions, it is necessary to carry out the program of furthering physical education for the people of the minorities. All levels of the Group must pay attention to the cultural activities of young people with the purpose of promoting interest in study and work, and to the amelioration of their way of life in a healthy, pleasant and useful manner.

5. To promote strongly the leadership for organization, to boost the strength of the Group quantitatively, to make sure that the policies of the Party with regard to the classes would be strictly implemented, to uphold the spirit of struggle so that the organization of the Group would go apace with the mission of the revolution, and to use to the utmost the strength of the Group in order to carry out the present revolution.

The revolution for Socialism requires that we should have a group of young people having the combative strength which must be reinforced with regard both to contents and to quantity. To that end, on the one hand, it is necessary to strengthen the organizational structure of the Group, to make a careful self examination of one's own Group, to further the aims of education, to eliminate bad elements from the young people, and to effect the distribution of cards to group members. On the other hand, it is necessary to pay more attention to propaganda activities and to the problem of expanding the Group, the admission into the Group of more positive elements of young workers, farmers, and students, which always emerge in every struggle for the renovation of Socialism, for increasing productivity and promoting extensive activity in the field of culture. In the process of development, it is necessary to pay attention to the young workers and farmers, especially those from the ranks of vanguard groups of grown up boys and girls. It is also necessary to dispel the bad habit of under-estimating womenfolk in general and to pay more attention to their problems with regard to ways of life and to the formation of female cadres. It is necessary to direct one's attention also to the development of various structures of the Group in the high regions close to the border, and to improve the organizational structure of the Group in various parts of the country.

The task of development must be performed in a steady manner, and ought to be achieved by stages. There will be in the current year a batch of young members called 'Class 20-4' with the purpose of strengthening the Group so that it will be more responsive to the demands of the revolution and will be ready for the achievement of the five-year plan.

It is necessary to improve the ways of performance in various tasks in order to promote solidarity and unity among young people for the purpose of their education, and the promotion of proper conditions for fulfillment of their needs and aspirations.

The next thing to do is to divide the Group, giving due consideration to the size of the unit to make it fit in with the collectives at district or village levels. Meanwhile, it is necessary to strengthen, improve and help the cadres and group members in the regiments which have the capabilities of performing by themselves various tasks. On that basis, it is possible to increase the responsibilities and rights of the organization according to the principle of centralized democracy which would create proper conditions for developing the initiative of the regiments.

In order to perform that task, a training program for Group members would be set up with the purpose of giving Group members all necessary information about the League of Young Communists, the history of its tradition, the record about the creation and principles for the organization of the League. Each group member has to study the program and has to go through an examination to determine his level of education.

In February 1961 we will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the formation of the League of Young Communists. The League of Communist young workers still continues the glorious tradition of its predecessor and will celebrate the anniversary of the League. This year, we feel the need to celebrate the historic occasion with the strong will of furthering the education of group members and young people and teaching the glorious tradition and shiny historic record of the League. As part of the preparations for the anniversary, Youth Groups will write on the history and tradition of the League of Young Communists, not only in the Central Committee, but also it is requested that all levels in the provinces, districts and various organs contribute to the writing. Meanwhile, there will be a competitive drive among the masses for the patriotic spirit, for the achievement of the plan of the Government and for all other activities such as, physical education, literature, etc... with the purpose of furthering various activities and promoting unity among the young people.

To promote the progress of the works of the Group in an orderly fashion, the Group assigns the task of organization to the cadres at all levels.

6. To strengthen leadership in various projects for youngsters, to take the work of training and improving the cadres in charge of children as examples, to develop the "Teams of Vanguard Youngsters," and to set up and expand the "Team of August Children."

The task of educating and training youngsters and children is a revolutionary task, bearing a close relationship with the larger task of the conduct of the revolution in the new era. The key question in need of urgent solution in the present task of education for youngsters is not a question of awareness, but the problem of versatile leadership which can adopt to fast changes. Full attention must be paid to the choice of group members in charge of children, to the formation of cadres in both contents and quantity, and especially, to the formation of female cadres to take in hand various missions for children. The formation of these cadres must be done in a steady way and has the implication in depth in the tasks to be accomplished. It is necessary to popularize the newspaper, 'Periodical of the Cadre-in-charge,' and with regard to the size and contents of the newspaper, to make it the leading organ for the cadres in charge of the children. The cadres in charge must consider and see to it that the distribution of the newspaper and other books for children and the contribution of articles to them are a discipline pertaining to the task of education.

It is necessary to make every affiliate of the Party and branch of the Government pay attention to the service of education for children, for instance, to make them provide more films, books and magazines for children, invent games, toys and other entertaining devices having an educational value, like playgrounds, living and study quarters for children, and other welfare activities aimed at promoting the education and improvement of children.

It is necessary to develop the "Team of Vanguard Children" more extensively in order to make it fit into the project of education for children and to meet the problems of scarcity.

The contents of education should be fully used to fit into the framework of the slogan of the Team, namely 'For the purpose of Socialism and for the unification of the country,' but they must also be practical, promoting the aims of education and daily living of the children in a positive way. In the meantime, it is necessary to improve the contents of their way of life in order to make living more pleasant and useful, and to avoid too frequent meetings and dry politics which exercise bad influence on their educational process and healthy growth... It is necessary to pay attention to the education of youngsters of the 14 and 15 age group in order to prepare them for admission into the Groups.

May 15, 1961 will be the 20th anniversary of the formation of the Team. It is necessary to make preparations for the anniversary right now, and to take advantage of the event as a means to boost education in order to promote and develop every activity of the Team and to set up a batch of members working for the strong development of the Team. Concerning children about to leave the Team, the 30th anniversary of the League of Young Communists will be the occasion to teach the children the ideals furthered by the League and to prepare them for admission into the League.

Next, it is necessary to ponder over the external circumstances in order to draft the contents of a concrete education for the group members and to make it more suitable for every age group, and for every level in a progressive way so as to enable them to reach the necessary level for their admission into the League when they leave the Team.

It is necessary to form and develop the "Team of August Children" in order to attract children of the 6 to 9 age group and to publish the newspaper 'Children's Journal' to further the education in accordance with their age group.

7. To act boldly and to speed up the formation and choice of cadres, to pay attention to female cadres, and to strengthen the leadership at all levels of the League.

The League has as its mission to provide cadres for all branches of the Party and the Government. It is thus necessary to have a force of permanent cadres in the Party, having a good level of leadership. We must consider the task of forming and improving cadres as the present indispensable mission. In order to accomplish that task, it is necessary to establish schools for the League in the provinces, short-term daytime classes in the districts or convene working conferences. It is necessary to choose cadres possessing good character, having the potentiality to take in hand the leadership in key positions of the League, to pick the cadres to work in the projects of production, and to promote female cadres to serve as leaders in the district and provincial levels. Concerning female cadres, attention must be paid to improve their living conditions and to help them overcome difficulties in their way of life. It is necessary to set up speedily a program for the education of cadres, especially the program of action of various organs.

It is necessary to stabilize the machinery at all levels, to develop the spirit of leadership in the collective way and according to the democratic tradition in the Executive Committees of the provincial and districts groups, to develop the spirit of responsibility of the executive commissioners, especially with regard to female cadres and other cadres from the level of the organs upward, and to care for the improvement and strengthening of these cadres.

All the levels of the League must go deep into the leadership projects, develop the creative spirit of the people, avoid to act in the bureaucratic way when an order is transmitted from the superior level, go deep into the movement, stand closer to the organizations and the people, assume the function of a leader and at the same time, bring out new ideas, and take advantage of the lessons of experience in the application to the working projects.

While the revolution goes through the process of constant change, the extent of the projects of the League is increasing daily in every aspect. The requirements of leadership at all levels of the League must be general. Leadership in the process of political thinking goes simultaneously with the knowledge of all the aspects of economic production, culture, science, technology, physical culture and health. It is why in the leadership of the League, on the one hand it is necessary to have comrades who are well acquainted with the aspects mentioned above in their participation in the various leading organs. It is necessary to mobilize those who have positive capabilities in their active contribution to the aspects already mentioned. On the other hand, individual cadres must also make efforts to study by themselves in order to understand fully the subjects mentioned above. It is necessary to make the cadres grasp the basic meaning of the theories of Marx and Lenin, and the policies of the Party, take in hand various working projects and

the education of young people while at the same time, know the full facts of production in agriculture and industry, and only when they have the cultural level to know the implications of science and technology, they could then participate in leadership in accordance with the growing needs of the revolution.

The year 1960 is the year of the deep penetration of the revolutionary movement into Socialism. The members of our Group's Young Workers and the forces of all the young people devoted to revolution must be re-organized into an army of young fighters, having the courage to shoulder all the responsibilities and duties entrusted to them by the Party and the Government. Actually, there was no aspect of social life, or no great project of the Party which has received no participation of the members of our League in an extensive way.

For the sake of the historic and glorious mission of the revolution for Socialism which is being extended in the North, and for the purpose of struggling for the unification of the country, the youth members must be fully aware of their role and responsibility that the Party has developed upon them, that is, the role of the confident arm and rear guard of the Party, and the faithful collaborators of the Party in every aspect of the growth of the Government, of economic strength and cultural development.

We must make great efforts and use our mind to the fullest extent in the struggle to achieve the work of renovating Socialism and to finish the project in 1960 of the Government ahead of schedule.

The Convention of the representatives of Youth Groups in the North calls on every youth member, every young people, male and female, and every cadre to be fully determined to carry through our lofty responsibilities and duties in engaging actively in production projects, in education, in enlisting in the fields of science and technology, in adopting the pioneer spirit of the fighter, always surging to the fore in every work front, so as to be worthy of the confidence of the Party, of the faithful son of the Party and of the people.

II. NGUYEN LAM'S SPEECH TO THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
LAO DONG YOUTH DELEGATES ON 15 FEBRUARY 1960

No. 529
17 February 1960
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Our Group last year made great progress in every field of endeavor, according to the general report on the youth movement in 1959, read by Comrade Nguyen Lam, First Secretary, Central Committee, Vietnam Lao Dong Youth Group, before the National Congress of Lao Dong Youth Delegates. That progress has contributed a valuable part in the achievement of the plan of the Government in 1959 and of the great tasks of the Party, and at the same time, consolidated the position of our League under the enlightened leadership of our Party which has particular concern for the youth movement.

On this point, the report arrives at the following conclusion:

To summarize, the year of 1959 marks a step forward of our League, a great eventful change in the intellectual awareness of youth members and young people about Socialism, in furthering the devotion for the revolution, and a strong development of the youth movement. Through the extensive participation of youth members and young people in the movement for renovating Socialism and in the competitive drives in labor productivity in order to achieve the plan of the Government, the role and position of the Youth League are increased in an evident way, the organization of the League has been strengthened, and the confidence of millions of young people has been enhanced. The year 1959 also saw the evidence of the great force and potentialities of youth members, and the confidence of the Party and the Government in youth members and our youth. The presentation of 22 labor medals by the Government and 14 certificates of praise by the Office of the Premier to various levels of the League in 1958 and 1959 shows that the Party and the Government are concerned about the mobilization and encouragement of youth members and young people to step to the fore in every working project.

We are utterly happy and proud of our contributions and show our gratitude to the Party and the Government which pay constant attention to the care and education of young people. According to us, our most gratifying reward is that the cadres, youth members and young workers are able to serve the people and fulfill the mission of the revolution.

A Number of Experiences in Leadership of the League Gathered
From Various Projects During Last Year

The Report quotes 4 great experiences concerning leadership of the League gathered from the various projects last year as follows:

1. To hold firmly the policies toward classes, and in the meantime, to pay attention to the characteristics of young people.

In the past record of mobilizing young people to adopt the ways of the revolution and the policies of the Party, we have come to know that in order to put the force of youth to use, it is necessary to hold firmly the policy toward classes and at the same time, pay attention to the characteristics of young people. Many of our comrades when referring youth, have said that many are not able to make a distinction with regard to classes. We should bear this in mind when we come to make an analysis of young people. As young people, they have characteristics of youth in general.... Young people have two characteristics, that is, good and weak points. The good points include enthusiasm, ability to grasp new innovations and to make progress. The bad points include: little knowledge in life, lack of experience, lack of intelligence, lack of experience in the mode of living and in production. While the good points are basic advantages, the bad points are temporary and could be overcome.

Being young people, they are people in society, and as such, they have the attitude and ideas of the classes from which they come. But it is wrong to say that young children of bourgeois families have the political viewpoint and the intellectual level of their parents, and that wrongful assumption would lead to a wrong attitude toward these young people and to the wrong kind of education.

On the other hand, it is also wrong to stress too much on the characteristics pertaining to those youths and to consider that young people are immaculate like a piece of white paper when considering the similarity between the children of bourgeois families and of workers. In the analysis of youth, it is necessary to have a viewpoint on the basis of the classes.

The stress on the characteristics of young people as peculiar to youth in general without consideration of the character of the classes would lead to a pessimistic estimate of the movement, when the movement faces difficulty; it is hard to distinguish the positive revolutionary mind of certain groups of people, when the objective is fulfilled, and when the movement is on the rise, there are certain classes of young people who are still hesitant and certain problems of the revolution remain to be solved.

On the other hand, in the mobilization of young people, if one considers the general aspect of youth without paying attention to its characteristics, there is the risk of having a narrow viewpoint, lack of confidence in them, being hesitant in putting the creative mind to work, and lacking the means and patterns to promote strongly the movement.

In the work of mobilizing young people, it is necessary to pay attention to the analytical study of young people's characteristics, and on the basis of that viewpoint, to promote the various tasks of education, organization and active projects.

But it is wrong to stress too much on the characteristics of young people and to neglect the characteristics of the classes. It is necessary to combine the firm holding of the characteristics of the classes and the analytical study of the youth characteristics in order to give proper direction to education and to youth activities. Thus, the movement would be able to have the proper orientation, and will be developed in a more powerful way.

2. It is necessary to grasp the work of combining the education in the ideas of Socialism and the practical aspect of the movement for renovating and building Socialism.

In the last year, many places have known to combine the practical aspects of the movement for renovating Socialism, with the collectivization of agriculture, of private enterprises and the drive for the improvement of the management of the plants and factories in order to give a sharp education to young people about two ways, about the differentiation between two systems, by showing them in retrospect the meaning of the system of exploitation, by making them the judge of the ideas of private property and the exploitative viewpoint of the rich landowners, by showing them that the system of private property is the source of exploitation, and ultimately by making them realize that the renovating of Socialism is a struggle to eliminate the regime of exploitation. On the basis of this political awareness and of the class consciousness, youth members and young people can demonstrate the positive spirit for the revolution for Socialism, and are able to mobilize themselves in the drive for collectivization of agriculture, private enterprises, and in their participation in the competitive drives for productivity.'

The report cites instances to prove that in the promotion of education for youth members and young people through the practical working of the revolution for renovating and building Socialism, we have still many shortcomings and uneven advances in the contents, patterns and means of education. Such shortcomings and uneven advances would restrict the results of education, of the efforts to raise the level of consciousness and ideas, as well as of the level of class consciousness of youth members and young people. On this point, the report brings up the following lessons of experience:

In the task of education for young people, it is necessary to grasp fully the contents of the classes, and the contents of politics combined with the practical revolution of renovating and building Socialism in order to raise the level of the ideas and of the mind of young people, to make them class-conscious, to make them the judge of the exploitative ideas of the bourgeois and rich landowners, and to build up the proletarian mind of young people.

In the North where we are advancing extensively toward Socialism, the struggle between the ways of capitalism and Socialism is present in every field of endeavor. That is a deep, extensive and general class struggle. At every hour and every day, in the tasks and life of youth members and young people, there is an incessant struggle between the individual and the collective, between exploitation and labor, between public property and private property and between progress and backwardness. The mind of youth members and young people also reflects that practical contradiction, and goes through a bitter struggle.

The whole position of the policies of the Party contains the contents of the struggle of the classes. Youth members and young people are the ones who have the determination to carry out the policies of the Party. But young people have these weaknesses: lack of knowledge in life, lack of intelligence and lack of experience in the class struggle in society. In such a situation, if we are not able to grasp the policies toward classes and the political contents in the task of education, the educational mission would lack effectiveness, while our projects would lack the force of struggle and the movement would be deprived of solid organizations for education in political awareness.

In the task of forming the mind of young people in Socialism, the struggle for the elimination of exploitation is not enough. It is also necessary to fight against the habits of living and production on a personal basis, which still persist in the minds of people. In the education for the formation of the mind of young people, the old mode of living and old habits still persist. It is thus necessary to fight against whatever is outmoded and hesitant, unprogressive habits, exploitation of the bourgeoisie, and inertia. It is necessary to build a new mode of life, to be on the alert every minute and every hour, to be always in a state of tension, of preparedness for revolution, to promote strongly productivity, and to engage resolutely in the technological revolution. Our job of education in this field is still incomplete. While our young people are just emerging from a slave society, and are preparing for a new life under Socialism, under Communism, it is necessary to build up the minds of young people, to inject in them the proud spirit of a victorious people, to form their mind in Communism, and guide them to the new life, boosting the level of awareness for Socialism in the mind of youth members. Their intellectual, scientific, technological aspects as well as their specialization in reconstruction must not only be high, but also competent in character.

5. To know how to amalgamate with the movement for renovating Socialism and building Socialism in order to strengthen and develop the organization of the League in a more steady way, to strengthen the character of the classes of the League.

From the struggle for the revolution of Socialism, a number of people having a progressive spirit will emerge from their ranks, while at the same time, there will appear a number of unprogressive and bad people.

The task of strengthening and developing the organization of the League must be tied closely with the present revolution for Socialism, by bringing out new potentialities, educating the weak elements, eliminating the bad elements, and it is on these conditions that the forces of the League could be counted upon. In order to have the right viewpoint, it is necessary to start from the viewpoint of the classes in order to have the proper consideration in the organizational task of the League. The League of Young People is the right arm and the rear guard of the League, a sharp instrument in the struggle of the classes, and one of the parts in the machinery of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Thus, the requirement in the organizational aspect is to build a force having a great combative spirit.

The main task of the League is to attract a great number of young people working extensively in various fundamental structures at all levels and to insure that the League would be always clean and strong. Recently, the good point is to develop the main corps of members in the fundamental organizations to lead the groups of poor peasants, but there is also a small number of executive committees working among the groups of average peasants, which can lead and account for a great number. In certain areas where there are well-off peasants, experience shows us that the drive for collectivization and the execution of the policies have met with many difficulties. The lack of positive experience of the cadres has an influence on the youth members and young people in these areas.

A widespread shortcoming is the lack of attention in the improvement and formation of cadres actively working in the fundamental organizations, and contributing to the cleanliness and strength of these organizations. Although some attention recently was directed towards bringing them to the position of leadership, the lack of planning for their improvement and formation cannot develop fully their leadership potentialities and their proletarian character. There are a certain number of people who have requested their withdrawal from participation in the projects because they feel unequal to the task.

We have not educated youth members and young people on the character of the classes of the League. That is the remaining problem at present. If we can accomplish this, the quantitative factor of the League would be improved and the combative force of the League would be stronger.

Another obstacle that needs attention and should be overcome is that in the League, there are a certain number of bad elements, even in the Executive Committee of the large group. Although their number is small, it is nevertheless necessary to have a full view of the matter.

4. It is necessary to apply and use the patterns and means of action of the League which are in accordance with young people in order to play the role of their leaders.

The party always teaches that the youth movement must be considered as a part of the general revolution led by workers' class and the Party of the working class.

The Youth League must always follow and go side by side with the Party -- the Party has cleared a bright road for young people and has solved the problems of the youth movement. The resolutions and directives of the Party are precious treasure chests, the spirit of determination, and the compass that the League ought to refer to in order to achieve the task of education and to work for the formation of young people. The youth movement must be tied closely with the drives for agriculture and industry under the leadership of the Party.

The participation to the full extent of the League in the tasks of economic rebuilding and cultural development has contributed to the improvement of the various projects of the League within the system of the dictatorship of the people, to the strengthening of the relations of the League with various public projects of the people and collectives... and to the development of rich patterns and means in the activities of the League. The Party has always stressed that the League ought to know how to use its patterns and means appropriate to young people in order to lead them. The patterns and means of the League in the solution of concrete projects of production and economics have a great meaning in the way of argumentation and practicability. The initiative and creative spirit of all levels of the League in the leadership of young people have created many lively patterns and ways and means of action which inject a new life into the youth movement in recent years, and solved a great number of emergency projects in production, economics and culture... But the practical projects in the past also resulted in the appearance of other trends, the preference for individual tasks and the avoidance of participation in common projects, the preference for doing things 'for the show' instead of paying attention to the common projects. That is the preferred psychology of young people, but if the leadership does not know how to take advantage of that psychology to promote special campaigns aiming at developing the creative spirit and initiative of young people to the fullest extent, and how to promote activities in every common project with the participation of the young people, stirring their enthusiasm in these common projects, and instead indulge with young people in their preference for individual jobs instead of making them pay attention to common projects, the result would be their separation from the people. The separation would be more pronounced, especially if the spirit of leadership is mixed with the preoccupation for achievement which would loosen easily the links with the people, through excessive concern for individual achievements, excessive indulgence for the preference of young people, instead of paying more attention to common projects, underestimating the old people and underestimating other organizations.

There are places where only the League, and not the governmental authorities, could mobilize young people; that is the situation which yields no good result in promoting solidarity and the respect for the government and for the absolute leadership of the Central Committee of the Party.

A great number of cadres do not grasp to the full extent the meaning of the ways and means of action which must be appropriate to the character of the League which has the role of educator of youth. The lack of awareness results in errors such as, running after consideration for numbers, with no or not enough consideration for the aim of education, too much attention on giving praises and rewards instead of promoting education for the mobilization of the people in various tasks at certain places, requiring the people to overwork in free projects and by so doing, endangering their health and their family life, paying little attention to the welfare of the people and recreational activities for young people, requiring only active people to do the work, instead of educating less endowed people.

There are also many places where the leadership has ably taken advantage of the particular character of youth, bearing always in mind the central mission of the Party, acting on the basis of regional needs and the potentialities of young people in order to start in a bold way various drives for youth, proposing adequate slogans having good contents for the formation of their character and at the same time having the quality of attracting them to the movement. It is necessary to start short-term training periods for the education of young people by requiring them to promote intelligent and progressive methods, progressive aims for leadership, progressive individuals for the sake of creating an active atmosphere in order to attract and push the common movement toward its regular work, considering the promotion of activities of the League in regular tasks as the core of the movement, having more concern for the mobilization of youth members and young people in their common participation with the people in various tasks. In common projects, it is necessary to require that young people bring out the spirit of the 'bow of the ship' under the leadership of the Party. That is a good experience. It shows clearly that it is necessary to take the basis of the character of youth in order to promote the good points of young people and overcome their weak points, bringing up strongly their creative mind for leadership and their capabilities.

The Function of the Tasks of the League During 1960

The year 1959, a year of brilliant achievements on the fronts of renovating Socialism, productivity, economic growth and cultural advancement, as well a year in which our youth movement has a great potential for growth, underwent a tremendous change in the awareness for Socialism and in the sense of responsibility of young people for the future of the Fatherland, through strengthening and building the organization in a more permanent way.

On the basis of the enthusiasm of the majority of youth members and young people, and the increasing awareness for Socialism, our Youth League will make a new step in pushing strongly every activity aiming at achieving more important tasks of a new order for renovating Socialism and the projects of the Government in 1960.

The main functions of the projects of the Government in 1960 as determined by the Central Committee of the Party in the 11th meeting of the National Assembly and the Council of the Government are as follows:

1. To make efforts to expand and to strengthen the movement for renovating Socialism, to promote basically collectivization at lower levels in agriculture and industry and basically form collective enterprises with regard to private trade and private enterprises, and at the same time to pay the fullest attention to the strengthening of the components of the state's economy which is the basis for the task of building Socialism, expanding and strengthening of the means of production under Socialism in the framework of the people's economy.

2. To use to the full extent every advantageous possibility in politics, economics and technology, to strengthen the managerial activities with regard to the state's economic enterprises, collective enterprises and other collectives, to increase labor productivity, to endeavor to increase productivity in agriculture and industry, with the main and central mission of promoting strongly agriculture under the framework of general considerations, overcoming the quota goals and considering the matter of food production as the main link in production, and at the same time, to pay a great deal of attention to the development of industry and handicraft work, increasing raw materials for production and the quantity of consumer goods. It is necessary to develop the means of communications and conveyance in order to serve timely the needs for basic building projects, to develop productivity and promote the life of the people.

3. To endeavor to develop and build the basic requirements for industry, agriculture and other fields of economic activity, and at the same time, to pay attention to the task of laying the foundations for cultural education and building collective housing projects.

4. To develop strongly various projects of education, science and technology and to form professional cadres and workers, to endeavor to develop the tasks of study and survey, and reconstruction projects in order to step positively into the first five year plan.

5. To continue to improve the physical and cultural conditions of all levels of the working classes, to keep on increasing the practical experience of agricultural and handicraft workers, to continue to improve the system of salaries and to increase the salaries of government employees, cadres and members of the army, to pay attention to the improvement of social conditions and welfare, and at the same time, to require the people to save more and to be economy-minded, thus, to practice the slogan, 'To save in order to build the country.'

The year 1960 is a special year with a great number of historical events. We will celebrate the 30th anniversary of the formation of the Party, the 3rd Conference of the Party, the 15th anniversary of the creation of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, the 70th birthday anniversary of Chairman Ho-chi-Minh, and we welcome the new Constitution and organize new parliamentary elections. Our Youth League also will hold the Conference of Active Young People Working for Socialism on March 15. The year 1960 is also the last year for winding up the work of the three-year plan of the Government. The report of the Council of the Government says that 'The Plan of 1960 has significant implications, because it has the obligation of winding up the remaining functions of the three year Plan, and at the same time, preparing extensively to engage in the first five year Plan.'

The report continues, 'The Plan of 1960 must achieve the goals, go beyond the goals and accomplish everything before the deadline... That fact will have a great political and economic significance, it will bring a great conviction and much enthusiasm to the population of the country when they engage in the five year plan and it will lay the physical foundations for the adequate fulfillment of the projects of the five year plan.'

The political implications of the historic events, and the five year plan of 1960 will have a great effect on the strong belief and enthusiasm of the young people and will change the face of our people and produce good results in the life of our young people as well.

All youth members and young people have the duty to struggle with the conviction and the sense of responsibility as the real owners of the Fatherland, with the intoxication and devotion of youth for the cause of the revolution, to work actively in every project in order to promote the revolution for Socialism, to struggle in order to lay the foundations for the work of renovating Socialism and to fulfill the goals' quotas well in advance of the deadline with regard to the plan of the Government in 1960 and to participate fully in the struggle for the unification of the country.

In confronting ourselves with the brilliant historic responsibilities of the period in transition before achieving Socialism, and with the revolutionary conditions progressing rapidly toward Socialism, we must understand fully the directives of the Party, the role and duties of the Youth League in the system of the dictatorship of the people, develop more extensively the role of the League of Working Youth, understand fully the meaning of the Resolution of the Party when it says that the League is 'the arm and the rear guard of the Party,' that young people are the faithful collaborators of the Party in all aspects of the building of the Government, of economic and cultural development. It is true that there was not an aspect of social life and no important factor of the Party which is not affected by the active participation of the League.

The resolution of the Central Committee of the League at its 6th meeting and the slogan of youth members and young people to 'step to the fore, struggle with all our vigor for Socialism and for the unification of the country,' have great influence on the minds and the sense of work of young people, and encourage them to make more and more progress in order to fulfil their brilliant responsibilities. In many projects of renovating Socialism, of labor production and cultural activities, our youth members and young people have shown that they always come to the fore. Many youth members and young people have found many ways and means as well as new methods in their contribution to the common cause of the Fatherland. Facing the brilliant responsibilities of the revolution for Socialism and the task of building Socialism at present, all young people, young man and woman, and young people in general must endeavor to study, to work, to make more efforts to progress, to increase their enthusiasm, to act in the ways of the predecessors, to increase their sense of awareness to Socialism, to be always at the front in every project of the revolution, to have a progressive spirit, to have the determination to be active and useful, to know the ways of struggle when still young in order to make a more effective contribution and to fulfill the tasks with the ebullient spirit of revolutionary devotion which is the characteristic of youth. The Party has devoted to young people the mission of teaching Socialism and Communism to all young people, and to the Youth League the responsibility of educating an army of millions of people in their participation in the task of building Socialism.

In this new phase of the revolution, and in face of the progress made by our Government, our Youth League must fulfill our new responsibilities in a much larger framework than before in the political, ideological, economic, scientific fields and in various other aspects of life. Youth members and young people ought to know fully the responsibilities confronting them in the present and in the future, to bear the glorious burden of building Socialism, and to engage in the reconstruction of the country.

To do that, they must be aware of the most important duty, which is to study, never to cease study, in order to grasp the meaning of science and technology, and to do the reconstruction work for the Fatherland. Study must be the primary concern of young people. Study must constitute an energetic revolutionary movement among all young people. Study does not mean to close the door to study, but to study in order to improve every specialized work, every production project, and in the study and work system, study must be geared to the task of the revolution and to the production projects.

At present, in the transitional period of the revolution to reach Socialism, it is evident that the role of the Youth League in the education of young people in order to prepare them to become courageous fighters fully aware of the mission of the Party and make them ready to overcome every obstacle and hurdle, is becoming increasingly important.

The determining factor in the present education of young people to improve their sense of awareness for Socialism and their level of cultural and technological knowledge is the realization of the necessity of making young people participate in the struggle for renovating Socialism, in practical labor projects, in creative tasks, and in competitive drives for building Socialism, of making them become the members of various organizations of the League and other revolutionary organizations of the people, participate in the drives for engaging themselves in cultural education and enlisting in the scientific field.

For these reasons, it is necessary to grasp the full meaning of the tasks of the League in 1960.

a. To combine the movement for renovating Socialism and competitive drives for increased productivity and building economic growth, as well as for participating in labor production with the education for young people, to strengthen and building the organizations of the League, and to promote the spirit and determination of young people to go always to the fore of the movement,

b. In the performance of the projects of 1960, it is necessary to have great concern for the formation of the ideological character, for the amelioration and formation of young people and cadres in the various aspects of political ideology, culture and specialization, vocational technology, development of the forces of the League, preparation for the performance of the next five year plan and the monumental task of building Socialism,

c. It is necessary to pay attention to the groups of children which are complementary forces of the League. They are the forces which will build Socialism and Communism in the future,

On the basis of the common directives and aims of the Party and the Government for 1960, and the directives of the League, we have the following concrete tasks to perform:

1. To bring more and more young people in the drive for collectivization in agriculture to drive for eventual collectivization of the handicraft and industry, and to reform private capitalistic enterprises and trade, and to promote the positive character and the urge to march to the fore in young people in every aspect of the task of renovating Socialism, to struggle in order to push strongly the revolution for Socialism, and to achieve the foundations for the renovating of Socialism in North Vietnam,

2. To promote an active competitive campaign among the masses of young people for their participation in the achievement of the plan of the Government of 1960 in every aspect of production in agriculture, handicraft, industry, and in the development of culture,

3. To uphold and to enhance the sense of awareness for Socialism and the spirit of patriotism, to teach the ethics of Communism to young people, to promote cultural education and to enlist them in scientific activities,

4. To strengthen and to develop the organization of the League, to build the League and make it a rallying center for all young people,

5. To improve the cadres in charge of children, to organize the Groups of Vanguard Children, to form and develop the Group of August Children,

6. To form the cadres and to strengthen all levels of leadership of the League.

III. LE DUAN'S SPEECH TO THE NATIONAL CONGRESS OF
LAO DONG YOUTH DELEGATES ON 19 FEBRUARY 1960

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Pages 1 and 4

On the night of 19 February, the National Congress of Lao-Dong Youth Delegates enthusiastically welcomed Comrade Le Duan, Member of the Politburo, Central Committee of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party, who comes to visit and address the congress.

Comrade Duan said, 'On behalf of the Central Committee of the Vietnam Lao Dong Party, I convey to you the warmest greetings. The Central Committee has heard the report of the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Youth League about the youth movement during last year and through it, the Central Committee has seen a great number of your achievements. The Central Committee hails you, Comrades. Today, coming here to attend the Congress, I would like to talk to you, help you acknowledge the exact position of youth in the present revolution and show you how to further the education for youth in order to promote more strongly the youth movement.'

For almost three hours, the whole congress listened to the directives of Comrade Le Duan. Comrade Duan analyzed sharply the main problems in the youth movement, as follows:

The position and role of youth in the revolution for Socialism in present-day North Vietnam; and the conduct of the educational movement to promote the youth movement.

Comrade Le Duan at first stressed that youth must recognize its role in the revolution in Vietnam which started a few decades ago. The first pioneers of the youth revolutionary movement in our country were young people, and the founders of the Party in 1930 were also young people. The revolutionary movement of Vietnam at present is a movement of young people, including young workers, farmers and revolutionary intellectuals. Thus, it is correct to say that the start of the revolutionary movement was also the beginning of the movement of youth. As the revolutionary movement progresses, the position, role and responsibilities of youth undergo changes in every phase of the revolution. Once the revolution succeeds, from the period of armed resistance to the time of building for peace, youth has a particular responsibility at every stage. During the armed resistance period, the greatest responsibility of youth is to enlist in the army to kill the foe for the salvation of the country. The leadership of the Party in the struggle was exercised through the military machine. Now, in the building of Socialism in the North, youth has its responsibility in every endeavor of the society, especially on the fronts of renovating Socialism and of boosting labor productivity.

The leadership of the Party makes itself felt not through any machinery, but through the League of Labor Youth of Vietnam. Thus, in every phase of the revolution, the role and responsibilities of the Youth League are different, and in consequence, the methods of operating are also different. Recognizing such an important role, young people, boys and girls, are getting more aware of their important responsibilities.

After outlining the achievements of the revolution in the world at large which has exercised a great influence on the conduct of the revolution in North Vietnam, on the task of building Socialism in the North and the struggle for the unification of the country, and showing that the general picture has contributed greatly to the revolutionary enthusiasm of young people, and recommending that youth ought to fulfill the responsibility and seize the opportunity offered them in order to make more progress, Comrade Le Duan explained the role and position of youth in the revolution for building Socialism at present in the North. He said that the main problem of the revolution for Socialism at present is to free the shackles of productivity and to renovate the old means of production. In the rural areas of the North, the key problem is not the difficulty of capitalist production or the farmers' production which obstruct productivity, but it is the problem of transforming individual small production into greater production for Socialism, by eliminating obstacles to progress, such as the maintenance of small production, by destroying the habits of working on individual basis instead of developing the collective way of doing things, and by discarding the outmoded ways of doing in order to welcome new ways of progress. Who represent that progress? Youth. This brings forth a clear and great responsibility.

In the present revolution for Socialism, we have two tasks to perform, Renovating and Building. The task of renovating is small, because the capitalist economy was too small in extent, but the task of building is more important. In both revolutionary phases, the task of renovating comes to the fore, but, generally speaking, the main thing is the task of building. To build the basic material foundation for Socialism means to build a great mechanized industry. Who would do that job of building? Young people. This poses another important problem about the role and responsibility of youth.

In the past years, young people have positively performed a great number of tasks, did a great deal of building projects, and the youth movement has recorded a great progress, but in certain tasks, such as the preparation of manure, the works in water resources, etc. the meaning of the revolution is not fully grasped by young people. The efforts are not geared and raised to a sufficient level in order to make more and more progress. Thus, the task of working for revolution is not given sufficient boost to have the progress as desired.

Concerning the task of educating young people, Comrade Le Duan stressed the fact that North Vietnam at present is progressing toward Socialism while by-passing the capitalist system. It is certainly an advantage that we don't have to go through the process of capitalist development, but it also points out the under-developed situation of our country. Consequently, the task of bringing Socialism to the North is difficult; it requires a deeper and stronger sense of devotion for the revolution from young people, the concretion of the tradition of sacrifice, of martyrdom for the sake of the country in the armed resistance movement, the courage to further the movement, and to widen it in order to fulfill the mission of the revolution given us in trust by the Party. In the armed resistance movement, our young people have accomplished a certain number of Herculean tasks, and certainly in the revolution for Socialism, our people could accomplish even more.

In order to do this, the League of Young Workers must impart to their members the full knowledge of Communism. It is necessary to make them fully aware that their loftiest ideal is to help bring a society without exploitation, with justice, equality and ideals, and to eliminate individual thoughts which would befog our devotion for the revolution in order to overcome every obstacle on the road of the struggle toward progress. It is necessary to imbue young people with the principle, 'All for each, Each for all,' to eliminate the discrimination between common interests and personal interests, to be ready to do everything that people require us to do, to be ready to bring happiness without asking for a reward, and to consider that service is itself our reward and happiness. It is necessary that young people know fully well that the labor viewpoint is a glorious one, that they should hate the idea of exploitation, the parasite, and that they should fight against the conservative habits and develop the spirit of bold thought, bold speech and bold action. To fight against outdated ideas and to help young people to escape from those ideas must be one of the main tasks of the intellectual education at present.

Comrade Le Duan said that the revolution for bringing about Socialism requires not only good thoughts, but also good means, that is, young people must get the knowledge of science and technology. Our country is in need of a great number of technological cadres, and those cadres come from the ranks of young people. Young people must engage in the movement for extensive education in order to improve their cultural level and to step right into the scientific field so as to consider that the education of young people is a great mission of the revolution. Without intellectual knowledge, without science and technology, it is impossible to lead the revolution on the road to success. Thus the Central Committee of the Party maintains the position that the development of education is imperative and calls young people to engage enthusiastically in extensive education and to step resolutely into the fields of science and technology. Comrade Le Duan said that young people are not hesitant to engage in extensive education and in the fields of science and technology, because these fields constitute the most pressing need, and their most rightful aspiration in order to develop more

fully their potentialities and to raise the level of service for the cause of the revolution. If there are at present certain young people still afraid of education, they should be considered the most backward people. It is necessary to grasp fully the factor of the determining outcome of science and technology in the present revolution for Socialism in order to engage oneself fully in education, and to specialize in science and technology.

Comrade Le Duan has given the directives to the League to pay attention to the development and popularization of the newspaper 'Tien Phong' (Vanguard) of the League, to make it perform the task of educating young people in Communism, in the ethics of the new projects, and of being the guide in their participation in the fields of science and technology and in the various projects of the League. It is necessary to discipline the members by making them read the newspaper 'Tien Phong', reminding them to do that, and checking if they have done so. The League has also the duty of setting up a library for young people in order to give them the means to improve their political, cultural, scientific and technological knowledge.

Finally, Comrade Le Duan advised the cadres and youth members to engage in criticism, self-criticism and moderate self-checking, so that they will always seek to do better in order to make more progress, to achieve the task of the revolution, and to be worthy of the confidence of the Party and the people.

The ideas expressed by Comrade Le Duan are precious lessons, and at the same time, constitute the directives that the Party gives to the cadres and youth members, aimed at furthering the work of the revolution, and at making young people a strong force for the Party and the revolution.

On behalf of the conference and the youth cadres, Comrade Nguyen Lam expressed his thanks to the attention and consideration of the Party for the sake of the League and promised the Central Committee of the Party to make further endeavors in the struggle in order to achieve the tasks given in trust by the Party.